United Nations S/PV.6907

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6907th meeting

Thursday, 24 January 2013, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Estreme
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Briz Gutiérrez
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Wilson
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in the Central African Republic

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country (S/2012/956)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-21571 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Central African Republic

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country (S/2012/956)

The President: Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Central African Republic to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/45, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Argentina, Australia, France, Luxembourg, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2012/956, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President: The draft resolution received 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2088 (2013).

I now give the floor to the representative of the Central African Republic.

Mr. Doubane (Central African Republic) (*spoke in French*): Since this is the second time in 12 days that I am addressing the Council, I should like to once again commend you, Mr. President, for the skill with which you are guiding the work of this important United Nations organ during this month of January.

The adoption of resolution 2088 (2013) on the situation in the Central African Republic and the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) give me an opportunity to make some brief comments on that important decision.

My country, which was made fragile by the sad and painful events that began on 10 December 2012 but are thankfully in the process of being resolved, took the opportunity of the Libreville discussions, held on 10 and 11 January 2013, to once again lay the groundwork for a return to peace through dialogue, thereby affirming the common faith of the women and men of the Central African Republic, despite their differences and the diversity of their cultural mosaic, wherein lies the wealth of our nation, to live in perfect symbiosis in a unified country.

In Libreville, decisions were made for the good of the country and for the happiness of the people. All that is required now is genuine political will by all parties to translate them into reality. The much-longed-for Government of National Unity, which is currently being formed, will have no alternative but to move in that direction, pursuant to its terms of reference, focusing increasingly on bringing peace to the country, restructuring the defence and security forces, relaunching the social and economic sectors, and convening the upcoming legislative elections.

However, we can see, even before a post-crisis assessment has been undertaken, that the scope of the damage is immense. Everyone — the President, the Government and the women and men of our country — will have to work hard to rebuild the State, whose foundations have been so seriously undermined. They have no doubt that all elements of the international community, including the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, the Economic Community of Central African States, the International Organization of la Francophonie and all friendly countries, which have always been by our side, will support our country in its quest for peace and development.

Here I wish to thank in advance all bilateral and multilateral partners and non-governmental organizations that will support the country during this process, which will be so crucial to helping the Central African Republic to be reborn.

That is why we welcome the justified extension of the mandate of BINUCA, a partner with which the Government of National Unity wishes to work in a concerted and harmonious manner. That cooperation will be launched in the next few days, beginning with a quick assessment of post-crisis realities so as to identify the measures necessary to move ahead with reconstruction.

Our country, which has suffered greatly from recurring conflicts that have stymied its efforts towards growth and development, has made the decision to leave behind a sad chapter of its history, take control of its destiny and move ahead with great hope.

Together, let us give the country the opportunity and the means to move ahead, as that is what it wishes to do. The country yearns for lasting peace for itself, for the Central African subregion and for all of Africa.

The President: The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6908

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6908th meeting
Thursday, 24 January 2013, 10.15 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Estreme
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Briz Gutiérrez
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2013/7)

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13-21577 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2013/7)

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/48, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2013/7, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it.

I should like to inform the Council that the presidency of the Council has met with the representatives of the parties, who have confirmed that they maintain their well-known positions vis-à-vis the item on the Council's agenda. On the basis of those meetings, with the consent of the members of the Council, the presidency has drawn the conclusion that the Council can proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

Abstaining:

Azerbaijan

The President: There were 14 votes in favour, none against and one abstention. The draft resolution has been adopted as resolution 2089 (2013).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements after the voting.

Mr. Mehdiyev (Azerbaijan): I should like briefly to share with the Council the reasoning behind our abstention in the voting on resolution 2089 (2013).

We would like to express our gratitude to the delegation of the United Kingdom for its leadership and efforts in facilitating the negotiations on the resolution. Azerbaijan fully supports the six-month mandate renewal of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

The year 2013 marks the fiftieth since the emergence of the Cyprus problem. A just and lasting political settlement without further delay is the hope and expectation of the international community. Needless to say, finding a solution as soon as possible would be in the interests of both sides and of the entire region. Azerbaijan believes that achieving a settlement of the Cyprus problem within the established United Nations parameters is possible, and we reiterate our full support for the Secretary-General's efforts to that end. It is clear that a settlement can be attained only through a results-oriented process and continued support to the Secretary-General's good offices mission.

While the resolution had to be a technical roll-over, it nevertheless contains a number of elements that are outdated. In fact, the language of resolution 2089 (2013) in regard to negotiations is repeated from resolution 2058 (2012) without duly reflecting the situation during the six-month reporting period. Thus, calls throughout the text to move towards more intensive negotiations are obsolete, as the substantive talks came to a halt in July 2012.

Moreover, the resolution just adopted contains apparent factual inaccuracies, such as the reference in paragraph 5 to the military areas in the north, which are no longer an issue. Futhermore, the resolution ignores a number of concerns raised by the Secretary-General in his January report (S/2013/7). Except for some minor amendments, many of the important issues raised by our delegation based on the aforementioned considerations were not taken into account during the negotiations.

For the reasons I have just cited, Azerbaijan decided to abstain in the voting on resolution 2089 (2013).

The President: The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6909

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6909th meeting
Thursday, 24 January 2013, 10.25 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Estreme
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Tian Lin
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Briz Gutiérrez
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Shearman
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi (S/2013/36)

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13-21583 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi (S/2013/36)

The President: In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Burundi to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Security Council, I welcome His Excellency Mr. Alberto Shingiro, Permanent Secretary at the Ministery for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office in Burundi, to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Paul Seger, Chairperson of the peacebuilding configuration for Burundi of the Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of Switzerland, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to document S/2013/36, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi.

I now give the floor to Mr. Onanga-Anyanga.

Mr. Onanga-Anyanga: I would like to thank you, Mr. President, for this opportunity to brief the Security Council on Burundi as it considers the Secretary-General's latest report (S/2013/36).

It gives me great pleasure and privilege to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of Janueary. Under your skilled leadership, the Council is in very good hands. As this is the first time that I am briefing the Council on Burundi, I would beg your indulgence in using the full time alloted to me.

As the Council knows, the Burundi has traveled a long path out of the cycle of violence that plagued it for more than four decades. The United Nations has been at Burundi's side every step of the way. The people and Government of Burundi have the greatest appreciation for that support. As I begin my presentation, allow me, Mr. President, to thank the Government and people of Burundi for the very high esteem in which they hold the United Nations. I have been humbled by the warm welcome I have received and the cordial relationships we have established since my arrival in their beautiful country. The work of the United Nations in Burundi is both respected and valued. It is in appreciation of the priceless support of the United Nations to their country that the Government of Burundi has made it a duty to reciprocate and give back to the community of nations, in particular by providing critical forces to peacekeeping operations, most notably in Somalia, and often at a high human cost. We will never be able to thank them enough for their sacrifice.

On behalf of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, I would like to thank you, Mr. President, and all the members of the Security Council for your dedication in the search for lasting peace in our ever more global and complex world, most specifically in Burundi.

Throughout 2012, Burundi continued to make further progress in consolidating peace and stability. By comparison with the situation that prevailed during the years of war, today's Burundi is a far better place to be in and to live in. Historians and observers may tell members that never before has the country witnessed such a long and uninterrupted period of democratic experience and stability. The Government and people of Burundi need to be commended for that major achievement in a post-conflict context. They deserve our continued support. That is not to say that the country has overcome all of its challenges. I will discuss both achievements and challenges with the Council today, through the lens of the benchmarks that the Council asked the Secretary-General to submit to it, and measure Burundi's progress against.

A number of the positive trends reported by my predecessor, Special Representative of the Secretary-General Karin Landgren, to whom I am ever grateful, during the previous briefing on Burundi to the Council in July 2012 (see S/PV.6799) have been further consolidated. Determined to overcome the effects of the long-standing conflict, Burundi has continued to make progress on its path towards a more peaceful, more just

and more cohesive society. However, the impact of the boycott of the 2010 elections continues, unquestionably, to affect negatively Burundi's political landscape. The political standoff between the Government and the extra-parliamentary opposition has led to tense relationships — sometimes with a violent edge to them — thereby putting an unnecessary and regrettable strain on political space. Needless to say, that is contrary to the letter and spirit of the consensus that has animated the peace-consolidation process since the Arusha Accords. Burundi's long-term stability — and, more immediately, the successful preparations and conduct of the 2015 elections — hinge, critically, on maintaining both.

Burundi is to be commended for its efforts in strengthening governance and institution-building, leading to continued improvements in mechanisms to fight corruption and build accountability. Burundi's new Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) was finalized and adopted in January 2012, and the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework in January 2013. We congratulate Burundi for the clearly articulated vision and excellent road map that those documents provides us with.

The conference of Burundi's development partners that took place at the end of October in Geneva helped to mobilize major support for the implementation of the new PRSP, in an impressive show of confidence by Burundi's international partners. The many partners and friends of Burundi who attended the conference could see for themselves that Burundi had travelled a long path. Democratic elections were held twice since the end of the conflict. And the efforts that the Government has been making to strengthen good governance and the accountability of institutions are beginning to pay off. Burundi, on the other hand, restated in Geneva, and in subsequent statements by its highest authorities, its commitment to the principles of democracy, inclusion, human rights and reconciliation.

As I mentioned earlier, the report of the Secretary-General before the Council contains an evaluation of the progress made against each of the eight benchmarks. Allow me to briefly highlight key points from the assessment.

(*spoke in French*)

The democratic process in Burundi continues to take on strength, despite the fact that, as I said a few moments ago, the impact of the boycott of the 2010 elections is still being felt. The majority of the most important institutions continue to improve and to carry out their responsibilities with greater confidence and efficiency. We can be pleased that today that the opposition's rejection of the legitimacy of the institutions that emerged from the elections appears to be waning.

One of the negative aspects of the boycott was a decrease in the diversity and representative character of legislative bodies, thereby circumscribing the chances for genuine debate and the search for consensus in addressing major issues of national concern. As nature abhors a vacuum, we have also witnessed a shift from the opposition to civil society when it comes to the Government's actions, with civil society increasingly being on the frontlines in opposition.

In spite of that tension and the divergence of views on a great number of issues that are severely testing Burundi's experience of democracy, the discussion between the Government and the extra-parliamentary opposition is continuing. For example, we should welcome the fact that the controversy surrounding the appointment of the members of the new independent National Electoral Commission has been overcome. Everything must now be done to support the work of that important institution, so as to allow it to organize the 2015 elections in an atmosphere of calm.

Generally speaking, I would like to commend the receptiveness of Burundi's authorities and opposition leaders to our humble advice and suggestions to be more accommodating.

In spite of those political challenges, Burundi continues to enjoy an outstanding level of security and stability. That is undoubtedly due, in large part, to the successful reform of Burundi's army and its growing professionalization. Now that things are calmer within its borders, Burundi has become an important actor in international efforts at peace, including efforts led or supported by the United Nations. Working with international partners, the United Nations has continued to provide the necessary support to strengthen the professionalism and accountability of the security sector, including people's confidence in Burundi's security forces.

While the overall security situation has remained stable, cross-border incursions by armed group continued throughout 2012, leading to armed clashes with Burundi's security forces. Although most were

low-level clashes, those incidents nevertheless reveal that there are still Burundians who will turn to armed violence to achieve political goals. The Secretary-General unreservedly condemns all recourse to armed violence as a means or tool of political expression, and calls on all Burundian political forces to choose dialogue and turn to democratic institutions over violence. When it comes to cross-border movements of armed groups, it is crucial to foment greater stability in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. That is an essential element of a comprehensive strategy to build lasting peace in Burundi.

It is also essential to put an end once and for all to acts of intimidation and factional violence in the context of Burundi's political landscape. Burundi, which has suffered too much from exclusion and clan mentality, continues to show the world that it has the necessary maturity to overcome its differences through dialogue. That was the right choice in Arusha in 2000, and it continues to be the right choice today.

Achieving a process of transitional justice that meets the dual objectives of reconciliation and providing justice is indeed crucial, but as yet incomplete under the Arusha Accords. The Mechanisms of Transitional Justice is at the very heart of the absolute need to take responsibility for the past by each Burundian and by the country as a whole. In that regard, transitional justice is an essential element of national restoration and reconstruction. There is national consensus on putting in place the basics. The country's President has on many occasions underscored the willingness of the Government to set up a truth and reconciliation commission. A bill that has garnered the attention of the entire country is currently before the National Assembly for consideration. Throughout 2012, the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights stressed the need to address this issue in a manner consistent with international norms and best practices, as well as in line with national expectations. Accordingly, BNUB submitted its comments on the draft law to the President of the National Assembly. We are hopeful that, in its wisdom, that body will strike a constructive balance between the essential need to promote national reconciliation with the need to provide justice in order to put an end to impunity and overcome the deep divisions that have afflicted the people of Burundi for so long.

For the same reasons, all stakeholders should ensure that the truth and reconciliation commission to be established be viewed as independent, legitimate and credible in the eyes of all Burundians, first and foremost, but also in the eyes of the country's international partners. The United Nations has supported Burundi since the beginning of the process and remains prepared to support a Truth and Reconciliation Commission that is fully in line with international principles and common aspirations.

Significant progress has been achieved with respect to governance and the strengthening of institutions, allowing ongoing improvement in anti-corruption mechanisms and enhanced accountability for institutions. As proof of this, Burundi has been ranked highly in several global and regional ratings systems. The National Strategy on Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption has begun to yeild concrete results, and the positive performance of the Burundi Revenue Authority is clear to all. The commitment of the President to pursuing his zero-tolerance policy against corruption lends significant political credibility to such efforts.

There is no need to stress the essential role that the judicial system can play in helping to establish a Burundian society based on respect for the rule of law, peacebuilding and stability. It is therefore important to enhance it and to ensure that it is representative, while also shoring up the publics's trust in it. However, we must recognize that the judicial system also continues to encounter major challenges.

I will now turn to human rights. The human rights situation showed some encouraging signs of improvement in 2012 compared with the two previous years. For example, the number of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and/or deaths that could be considered as politically motivated, as well as cases of torture documented by BNUB, decreased significantly compared with the previous year, although the number of instances of abuse continues to increase overall. BNUB and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have worked tirelessly to support the Government in ensuring national capacity-building in promoting and protecting human rights in Burundi. This has been accomplished, inter alia, through close cooperation with the Ministry of Human Rights and support to the Independent National Human Rights Commission that was set up in July 2011. The Commission has seen a significant

increase in the number of cases recorded, studied and completed this year. It has also opened three regional offices, which has expanded its scope and enhanced its efficiency.

Civil society organizations continued their outreach work on relevant issues, including human rights, corruption and social issues such as the increase in food prices. While it is clear that tensions continue to plague the work of such organizations, we must welcome the positive examples of cooperation between the Government and civil society. We must also stress that the existence of a dynamic civil society and independent media are valuable assets for Burundian society. We must do our utmost to ensure that those stakeholders continue to play their essential role of monitoring and outreach, ethically and in a responsible manner, in order to contribute to enhancing democracy gains and to achieving the national strategic development objectives.

The eighth criterion, which deals with economic and social development, is without doubt that to which the Government of Burundi is giving the highest priority, and rightly so. Burundi continues to face major challenges. Despite the incredible progress that has been achieved, Burundi remains one of the poorest countries in the world. For too long, the peace dividends that could have served as a solid basis for development have not met expectations. Now more than ever, the country needs the support of all its partners in order to win the fight against the extreme poverty that still affects the overwhelming majority of its people, despite their courage and industriousness. Joint efforts of the international community are therefore absolutely essential to help the country improve its productivity and promote economic growth towards shared prosperity.

In the short term, the country needs significant budgetary support to allow it to deal with the many challenges that are inherent to the functioning of a post-conflict society. The further commitment of the private sector through investment is also essential in potentially productive sectors such as energy, the food industry, infrastructure or mining resources.

I would like to express my sincere admiration and appreciation for Ambassador Paul Seger, as Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, for the truly decisive role he has played and continues to play in enhancing the international community's awareness of the absolute need to support Burundi's efforts to fight poverty and pursue growth. Once again, I reiterate that I am fully prepared to work with him in carrying out his noble mission. We are particularly grateful to the Peacebuilding Commission for its efforts to prepare and ensure the successful organization of the donors conference in Geneva and for its support to the peacebuilding process in Burundi, in particular through the Peacebuilding Fund, which has been so skilfully managed by my colleague, Under-Secretary-General Judy Cheng-Hopkins.

(*spoke in English*)

Lifting a country out of poverty and healing the wounds of long-term and cyclical violence are immense challenges. Overcoming them requires the contributions of all elements of society. I am confident that the Government of Burundi and its people know that an open, more democratic Burundi will be better prepared to respond to the major tasks it faces.

The United Nations has been Burundi's partner throughout the long and often arduous peacebuilding and peace consolidation processes. We remain at Burundi's side today. We believe that there is a true opportunity for Burundi to firmly establish an era of transformative politics through inclusion, dialogue and the search for the common good. To move forward, it is crucial, however, that we not lose sight of the objectives Burundi set for itself in Arusha and in its 2005 Constitution — building institutions that strive for good governance and equitable growth, while forming a society that respects diversity and human rights — in short, consolidating a vibrant democracy where all citizens can live in peace and freedom.

With the 2015 electoral campaign just two years away, it is now essential that both the Government and the opposition play their parts in ensuring a continuing consensual approach in dealing with the challenges ahead. That is why the Secretary-General has called on all to intensify their efforts to nurture dialogue and normalize relations and to ensure that the foundations for a peaceful and participatory campaign period are laid now. I am confident that, if the remaining challenges in Burundi's peace consolidation process are addressed in such an atmosphere of openness and mutual support, we will succeed, and that beautiful country will be able to ensure that those who are children now can exercise their right to a better future. It is our assessment that sustained United Nations and international political

engagement, combined with adequate backing of the country's development strategy, are still required to help achieve that vision.

The Secretary-General therefore recommends that the mandate of BNUB be extended for one year, consistent with the views of the Government as set out in a note verbale of 24 December 2012. In consultations with the highest authorities of Burundi, I have had the opportunity to review our collaboration and discuss the way forward, including with the Permanent Secretary, who is here with us today. Against this backdrop, the Secretary-General intends to field a strategic assessment mission, which will provide a further assessment of the situation through the existing framework of benchmarks, and will inform his recommendations regarding the future presence of the United Nations in Burundi. He will present the recommendations in his next report to the Council, taking into account the views and consultations with the Government of Burundi.

As I conclude my presentation, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all my colleagues, in particular Under-Secretary-General Feltman and his team in the Department of Political Affairs, and of course those in Burundi, both in BNUB and colleagues from the United Nations system, for their dedication and support in helping Burundi and its people. I would also be remiss not to thank the very dynamic diplomatic corps in Bujumbura for their invaluable support.

Allow me in closing to make one last comment on a rather personal note.

(*spoke in French*)

From the green hills of Ngozi in the north-east of Burundi to the banks of the life-giving waters of the majestic Lake Tanganyika, a powerful and united outcry is heard. It is that of the men and women of Burundi, appealing for the emergence of a more harmonious, just and peaceful society as the basis of a more prosperous and promising nation for present and future generations. These men and women, young and old, from all ethnic backgrounds and of all religious convictions, will not understand why their legitimate expectations should be disappointed. Together and in support of the Burundi Government's efforts, that hope can serve as powerful leverage to achieve the strategic objectives that Burundi has set for itself. I have no doubt that the Council has heard Burundi's outcry and that it will once again be able to respond favourably with all the strength of its authority.

The President: I thank Mr. Onanga-Anyanga for his comprehensive briefing.

I now give the floor to Mr. Seger.

Mr. Seger (*spoke in French*): In my capacity as Chair of the country-specific configuration on Burundi of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), I thank you, Sir, for this opportunity to address the Security Council. I should like to thanksto the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, for his briefing here today — which I fully endorse — and for his relentless efforts in assisting Burundi.

I shall structure my remarks around the three following points. First, I will briefly cover the main messages of the Conference for Burundi's Development Partners, held in Geneva on 29 and 30 October 2012, and its aftermath. Secondly, I will offer a briefing on my most recent trip to Bujumbura, which took place from 14 to 16 January, where I met a wide variety of stakeholders who gave me a general sense of the situation in the country, to see for myself how the follow-up process to the Geneva Conference is unfolding, and to discuss further PBC engagement with the relevant authorities. Thirdly, I will explain to the Security Council why a one-year extension of the political mandate of the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB), with the option of prolonging it beyond that, would be of great help to me in my task of supporting Burundi in my capacity as the country-specific configuration.

I will try to limit my remarks on the Geneva Conference to a minimum, which Council members will certainly remember as I have already described it in depth a letter sent 28 November 2012. Seeking to promote Burundi's second-generation Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP-II), the Geneva meeting in late October 2012 was a success. It also marked a critical phase in the strengthening and institutionalization, on the basis on the PRSP-II, of the partnership between the Government of Burundi and its international partners, traditional and new alike.

The reinvigorated partnership rests upon two assumptions. On the one hand, the international community, through its strong financial and political commitment, clearly acknowledged the far-reaching and impressive progress achieved by Burundi so far. On the other hand, the trust shown by the partners present in Geneva should encourage the Burundi Government to redouble its efforts to implement much-needed

reforms in the political, institutional and socioeconomic spheres. In that regard, during my meeting with Burundi President Nkunrunziza in Bujumbura last Wednesday, I was encouraged by the President's message that he regarded the commitments of Geneva as reciprocal. I recommended that he announce a number of concrete steps in the coming weeks and months to follow up on Burundi's engagements. At the same time, I have asked all donors to honour their pledges and to continue to follow Burundi in its reform efforts.

I visited Bujumbura last week, where I met with the main governmental representatives, including the President, representatives of all political parties, including the extra-parliamentary opposition. I also met with civil society members, the private sector, the President of the National Independent Electoral Commission, the President of the Independent National Human Rights Commission, the Burundi Revenue Authority and international partners.

The main purpose of my visit, as I mentioned, was to discuss the future steps of the Configuration's engagement with Burundi, including the follow-up process to the Geneva Conference. Building on the dynamics of the conference, I proposed to the governmental authorities that we continue with our political, institutional and socioeconomic engagement. The latter relates to the Geneva follow-up process. From my conversations with the representatives of Burundi, both in New York and Geneva, I gather that the Government wants the Burundi configuration of the PBC to maintain its commitment support until 2015 and beyond, which I consider to be very positive. I reiterate my willingness to continue advocating and counselling Burundi, and I will try my best to ensure that the pledges made in Geneva will be kept.

From my meetings with the relevant stakeholders, I learned that the Government, starting in April, intends to organize sectoral conferences on infrastructure, transportation and security, the development of the private sector, health care, good governance and the environment. While I welcome the Government's plans, I urged it to prepare the conferences with utmost care, even at the price of having to postpone them. Setting priorities, identifying one's target audience, and defining expectations and needs will be crucial aspects for the success of the conferences. The international community lend Burundi a strong helping hand in that regard. Geneva was but the first step; the challenges of implementing the PRSP-II have only just begun.

At the political and institutional level, I recommend concentrating the configuration's efforts on the areas in which we have already been cooperating with Burundi: dealing with the past; national reconciliation and transitional justice; widening the political space and the democratic culture, including political dialogue, the return of exiled opposition leaders and the 2015 elections; the rule of law, human rights and reform of the justice sector; and good governance, fighting corruption and promoting transparency. In all of those areas, the Peacebuilding Commission can constitute an important platform for dialogue and exchange and thereby support the efforts of other actors, such as BNUB and the United Nations Development Programme. The strengthening of important institutions, such as the Independent National Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Good Governance, which are doing terrific work, is also a crucial factor.

Further progress in those four areas is needed and indispensable. This year will prove decisive for the consolidation of peace in view of the 2015 elections. An open and inclusive atmosphere will be essential for the return of genuine multiparty democracy. The success of the electoral process depends on the opposition and the Government alike; all must contribute.

In Bujumbura I sensed a genuine interest from both sides in not repeating the errors of 2010. Government representatives emphasized that they want a real competition in 2015. The extra-parliamentary opposition is keen on participating, although they realize that at this stage, victory in 2015 amounts to wishful thinking, which therefore puts participation in the elections in a long-term perspective.

Those developments are very positive, but risks still exist. Maintaining and expanding the political dialogue between the Government and the extra-parliamentary opposition will be key in avoiding those risks.

Similarly, the process of dealing with the past is also critical. It is up to Burundi itself to decide on how the matter is to be approached; that is clear. Nevertheless, I urge the Government to be especially sensitive to the opinions of Burundian society on the issue.

I intend to communicate those priorities to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Mr. Laurent Kavakure, in a formal letter. If this procedure is agreeable to Burundi, my letter and his reply could henceforth form the basis of mutual commitments between the PBC configuration and Burundi. It could

replace our outcome document, which has now become obsolete because, as of June 2013, all the peacebuilding review processes will be incorporated in the monitoring and evaluation of the first pillar of the PRSP.

My visit last week also marked an important step in expanding the Peacebuilding Commission's partnership with other relevant actors, particularly with the international financial institutions. Building on the success of the Geneva conference, Mr. Philippe Dongier, Regional Director of the World Bank, and I met with high-ranking representatives of the Burundian Government together, including the President and the Second Vice-President. We explained to them that socioeconomic development was inseparably linked to political and institutional progress, which forms the basis of the Peacebuilding Commission's work.

In the future, we envisage a continuing increase in our partnerships. In that connection, I also travelled to Nairobi to meet with the Director of the World Bank's Global Center on Conflict, Security and Development, Mr. Joel Hellman.

Let me now turn to my third and last point. The effectiveness of my work as Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission is to a large extent based on the excellent role played by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and his team. The collaboration with BNUB, for example, has been key for the success of the Geneva conference. For bilateral and multilateral partners, BNUB represents an institutional guarantee that their money is being well spent. I have also conveyed that message to the President himself.

Consequently, from my point of view, a continued presence of BNUB on the ground is essential. I am aware that the Government of Burundi would like its mandate to be extended for another year before it is transformed into a country team. That decision of course has to be taken by the Security Council. For my part, I also strongly argue — and all Steering Group members have delivered this message to me — for a sustained BNUB presence, ideally until 2015.

We all know that Burundi is not one of the primary concerns of the Security Council, but it is often the "silent" countries that represent the true success stories. Let us not jeopardize this opportunity by prematurely withdrawing.

If the Government should sense a certain unease about a prolonged political presence of BNUB and have the feeling that being on the Security Council's agenda may create the impression that Burundi is not a "normal" country, let me offer a response. The only "abnormality" regarding Burundi — and on this I agree completely with Special Representative of the Secretary-General — is the impressive progress it has achieved in such a short time. Being on the Council's agenda does not give the country a negative image; to the contrary, it is another aspect of its success story.

Let me conclude with an urgent appeal to all donors present here today. Due to its difficult economic and financial environment, Burundi risks encountering considerable problems in meeting even the most basic budgetary expenses. That concern has been brought to my attention not only by the Government, but also by international partners. I therefore urge all donors to seriously consider increasing their development assistance in the form of budgetary support.

I remain at the Council's disposal for any questions.

The President: I now give the floor to the representative of Burundi.

Mr. Shingiro (Burundi) (*spoke in French*): At the outset, I would like to join those who spoke before me in congratulating you, Mr. President, on behalf of my delegation, for your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of January 2013. Allow me to also extend to the members of the Council, on behalf of the Government of Burundi and on my own behalf, the warmest greetings of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Burundi, Mr. Pierre Nkurunziza.

The peace dividend that the people of Burundi are now enjoying is the outcome of the joint efforts of its people and the international community, in particular the United Nations. The gradual withdrawal of the forces of the United Nations Operation in Burundi was the result of a compromise between the United Nations and Burundi because the political, social and security situation was increasingly improving. Consequently, it was necessary to transform that mission into the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi, with a mandate to consolidate peace and strengthen national capacity.

During those events, in 2007 the Government of Burundi, with the support of the United Nations, drafted a strategic peacebuilding framework, which

underscored four priorities: governance, justice and human rights, security sector reform, and, finally, land issues and community revival.

The financing of 18 quick-impact projects that were developed within the framework of implementing the strategic peacebuilding framework allowed the people of Burundi to overcome many challenges that were linked with the integration of former combatants, national capacity-building in terms of promoting human rights, combating poverty, and community revival, as well as the reintegration of thousands of returnees, most of whom were coming back from neighbouring countries.

The transformation of the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi to the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB), with a light footprint for an for an initial period of one year beginning on January 2011, was brought about, as representatives all know, by a political, social and security situation that was becoming increasingly manageable. Therefore, it was necessary to continue to consolidate peace and tackle the fight against poverty, which is the main enemy of the people of Burundi.

The Office's mission also included working with the Government "to develop a set of benchmarks for the future evolution of the United Nations Office in Burundi to a United Nations country team" and to report regularly to the Security Council on progress on that task. That work was completed, and the Secretary-General presented the Council with the report on 10 May 2012 (S/2012/310, annex).

We take this opportunity to report to the Council Burundi's significant progress on many fronts, and we will make more progress in the future. Burundi already serves as an example for several struggling countries around the world. Without outlining all the tangible results achieved in recent years, I would like to share some of them with the Council, issue by issue.

In the area of democratic processes, Burundi has made important progress in strengthening democracy and resolving political differences through inclusive dialogue. I will enumerate a few notable achievements in that sphere. First, in 2010, was the holding of fair, open, democratic elections in keeping with international electoral standards. Secondly, we drafted the law concerning opposition parties, which will allow all political players to participate in constructive, organized political dialogue. Thirdly, on a consensus basis and with the Parliament's approval, we appointed members of the National Independent Electoral Commission with a view to preparing in a timely way for the 2015 elections.

The whole of the Burundian population has benefited from those achievements. According to a poll conducted by Gallup World Path, the percentage of Burundians who have confidence in Burundi's electoral process rose from 66 per cent in 2009 to 83 per cent in 2011 — an increase of 17 per cent in less than two years.

In the sphere of security and stability, the Government of Burundi has continued to improve its security and defence forces and make them more professional, with a view to responding effectively to both national and international security problems while respecting norms and rights. We can point to a number of significant achievements in that area.

First, in the framework of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, the relevant services were able to collect and destroy more than 12,000 grenades, over 2,000 rifles and around 4,000 hand guns in 2009. The successful integration of former rebels into our defence and security corps, in strict accordance with the Arusha Peace Agreement, has greatly contributed to stabilizing the country by providing security and protection for all. Secondly, at the end of 2012 more than 60 per cent of weapons belonging to the Police nationale du Burundi were registered and marked. During the same period, 100 per cent of the weapons of the Forces de défense nationale were registered and marked. Those percentages are compared to 50 per cent and 40 per cent in 2011, respectively.

A third significant development was the drafting of the National Security Strategy. Fourthly, again according to Gallup World Path, the people's confidence in the Force national de défence has also increased, from 89 per cent in 2009 to 91 per cent in 2011. The Police nationale du Burundi have also enjoyed an increase in popular confidence, from 82 per cent in 2009 to 83 per cent in 2011.

In the area of strengthening good governance and national institutions, a number of institutions called for in Burundi's Constitution have been established. Among them are the Anti-corruption Brigade and the Anti-corruption Court, created in 2006, the National Communications Council, in 2007, the National Security Council, in 2008, and the Permanent Forum

of Political Parties, in 2010. In 2011 the National Independent Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Ombudsman and the Burundi Revenue Authority were established. There are others as well.

In the fight against corruption, according to Transparency International's 2012 East African Bribery Index, Burundi has moved from last place in East Africa to second place on the list of countries least affected by corruption in the East African Community. The recent adoption of our National Strategy on Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption, together with the integration of the fight against corruption in our Constitution and criminal code, leaves no doubt that our anti-corruption initiative will continue. The call by the President of the Republic of Burundi for objective application of a zero-tolerance to anyone found guilty of financial malfeasance remains our watchword.

With regard to the rule of law, since the 2005 transition period Burundi's Government has unflaggingly focused its efforts on fostering the independence of the judicial sector. For example, the year 2011 was devoted to developing departmental policies for the Ministry of Justice for 2011-2015, an initiative confirming the Government's firm commitment to strengthening the independence of the judicial sector. The year 2011 also saw an increase in the percentage of the population voicing confidence in Burundi's justice system. According, again, to a Gallup World Path poll, it increased by around 10 per cent between 2009 and 2011.

As for respect for human rights, the Government of Burundi has continued to nurture a culture of protection and promotion. The National Independent Human Rights Commission continues to conduct investigations of cases on its docket. In the interest of greater contact with the public, the Commission has set up three regional offices in the country's interior. Along the same lines, the Government of Burundi is pleased to continue the ongoing dialogue with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, especially because a number of meetings were held with that Office on the vital question of human rights.

In the same vein, the Government of Burundi cannot leave unmentioned the violence routinely done to women and girls. To address it, a care centre for victims of sexual abuse — le Centre Humura — has been set up in the middle of the country, in Gitega. Other measures have also been taken, notably the creation of a criminal office that is always open so that serious cases can be judged while the facts are fresh.

As for regional integration, Burundi continues to focus much effort on being integrated into important regional entities. It takes part in all meetings of the East African Community and chaired its 2011 summit with striking success. To demonstrate its deep commitment to regional integration, Burundi included that sector among the eight pillars of its Vision 2025 and gave it a place of prominence in its second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. The economic benefits of this integration are many. Internal trade between Burundi and the EAC has grown by 15 per cent since we joined the Community, in 2007, and that trend is continuing.

In the area of socioeconomic development, I should point out that despite the considerable efforts of the Government of Burundi and its people to improve the country's socioeconomic situation and the quality of life of its citizens, poverty, the lack of land, food insecurity and high unemployment are still major challenges that Burundi will have to tackle in the years to come. In order to achieve that, budgetary support from our partners, beyond project financing, will continue to be more essential than ever.

Aware of the extreme poverty that Burundi is dealing with, the people of Burundi themselves, with the support of their development partners, have decided to formulate their strategic framework for growth and poverty reduction, which integrates some peacebuilding elements into its first pillar. This is the right moment, through you, Mr. President, to thank the international community and the development partners who put their efforts into ensuring that we received better-than-expected pledges at the Development Partners Conference on Burundi held on 29 and 30 October in Geneva. It was an undisputed success.

It is true that Burundi has made significant progress in several areas in recent years, but there are still challenges to be met that require the support of the international community in general, and of the United Nations in particular. Regarding the challenges that remain, Burundi, like the other countries in the subregion, cannot fully enjoy the peace it has regained or speak of peacebuilding when the security situation in the subregion as a whole is not good. The negative forces that are active in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo portend a troubling security situation and have led us to remain vigilant and to

adopt a policy of neither interference not indifference. The situation in the eastern Congo deserves greater attention from the Security Council, since it runs the risk of inflaming the entire region, thereby threatening international peace and security.

Aware of the part that the international community has played in restoring peace to our country, the Government of Burundi will continue to send troops to other countries in difficulties in order to help them regain and consolidate peace. That reflects our reciprocity for, and recognition of, what the international community has done for Burundi during the difficult periods in our own history.

I believe the Council will agree that no country in the world can ever get everything done at once. That is why the Government of Burundi appeals to the international community to recognize that our country has made significant progress in the areas I have mentioned. In order to accomplish that, my Government's hope is, in the best-case scenario, to achieve a new framework of cooperation with the United Nations through the progressive transformation of the United Nations Office in Burundi into a new United Nations country team in Burundi. The Government believes that a period of 12 months will be more than enough to achieve such a reconfiguration. The country team could continue to cooperate with the Government of Burundi in key areas, including democratic governance, combating corruption, security sector and justice reform and the promotion and protection of human rights.

The same applies to the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission. While recognizing and paying tribute the efforts of Ambassador Paul Seger and his predecessors, Burundi would like to see a more flexible commitment in terms of the timetable, agreed on with the Commission, and taking into account the context of the strategic framework for growth and poverty reduction and its first pillar, as well as of the evolving situation in our country.

Concerning the current report of the Secretary-General (S/2013/36), the Government of Burundi takes note of it and reiterates its intention to cooperate fully with the United Nations in order to meet its remaining challenges within a framework of good governance, the rule of law and community restoration. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere thanks through you, Mr. President, to the Secretary-General for producing a balanced report in which he explicitly acknowledges that the human rights situation in Burundi improved significantly in 2012 by comparison with the previous two years. The Government of Burundi, for its part, is committed to maintaining that trend.

The President: There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6910

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6910th meeting
Thursday,24 January 2013, 3 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Bouchaara
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. M'Beou
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (S/2013/22)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-21589 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (S/2013/22)

The President: Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Sudan to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Edmond Mulet, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2013/22, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

I now give the floor to Mr. Mulet.

Mr. Mulet (*spoke in French*): I would like to thank the Security Council for providing me with this opportunity to present the latest report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) (S/2013/22), which was issued on 10 January, as well as to share with the Council the most recent developments in the political, security and humanitarian situation in Darfur.

At the political level, negotiations began on 20 January between the Government of the Sudan and the faction headed by Mohammad Bashar of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), under the auspices of the Joint Chief Mediator ad interim, Aïchatou Mindaoudou Souleymane, and the State of Qatar. The parties are expected to sign in the near future a framework calendar to guide the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur.

From 10 to 14 January, the mediation team organized a capacity-building workshop for the JEM-Bashar delegation. The African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur provided experts to support the mediation efforts, in particular on matters related to a ceasefire agreement, security arrangements and gender matters.

On the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace, following the appointment of 46 of the 67 members of the Council of the Darfur Regional Authority in October 2012, the Council was formally inaugurated on 16 January in Nyala, in the province of South Darfur. The Council of the Darfur Regional Authority is chiefly responsible for evaluating the performance of the Authority, guaranteeing that it is well managed and reviewing laws having to do with the Authority's responsibilities. During the inauguration of the Council, the First Vice President of the Republic of the Sudan, Mr. Ali Osman Taha, renewed the commitment of the Government to the peace process and announced a parliamentary budgetary decision to allocate 800 million Sudanese pounds, the equivalent of approximately $181 million, to support the peace process in Darfur.

As outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, the Darfur Joint Assessment Mission finalized its evaluation of economic recovery, development and poverty eradication needs before the Darfur donor conference. From 13 to 21 December, the Chairman of the Darfur Regional Authority, Mr. Tigani Seisi, led a delegation that included representatives of the Government of the Sudan to Belgium, Italy and Spain, to seek support for the donor conference.

In addition, on 25 December, President Omer Al-Bashir issued a decree establishing a committee to examine the current conditions in which aid organizations are working in the Sudan. Members of the committee include representatives of the National Humanitarian Aid Commission, the Darfur Regional Authority, the national security and intelligence forces and the Ministries for Foreign Affairs, Defence and the Interior. Nevertheless, UNAMID and humanitarian partners have still not seen improvements in humanitarian access on the ground.

(*spoke in English*)

I am seriously concerned about the increase in hostilities between the Government and armed movements and by the rising intercommunal violence taking place in some parts of Darfur, and the associated impact on the civilian population. Further to the military clashes described in the report before the Council, on 31 December local community sources reported that Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid

forces had ambushed a Government military convoy near Guldo, approximately 23 kilometres north-east of Nertiti, in western Jebel Marra, resulting in the capture of Government military vehicles and in military casualties. Fighting reportedly continued in the area on 2, 7 and 9 January, including — according to local sources — bombing by Sudanese Armed Forces aircraft.

Throughout that period, UNAMID and humanitarian access to Golo and Guldo remained obstructed by forces of the Government and armed movements. Humanitarian agencies thereafter verified the arrival of 5,000 displaced persons to Nertiti as a result of the hostilities. UNAMID facilitated humanitarian needs assessments and transported emergency aid to Nertiti.

Intercommunal violence flared up in early January when the Beni Hussein tribe and Aballa camel-herding tribes clashed in Jebel Amer, in El Sereif locality, 40 kilometres north-west of Kabkabiya, North Darfur, over access to a gold mine administered by the Beni Hussein group. On 4 January, a group of Aballa tribesmen reportedly initiated mining activities without the approval of the local mining committee charged with overseeing mining operations in the area. An altercation ensued, resulting in the killing of one Aballa tribesman and injuries to three members of the committee. Shortly thereafter, the Aballa mobilized militia and entered the mining area by force. Up to 100 hundred people are reported to have been killed, 47 people injured and an estimated 25 villages destroyed. Some 60,000 civilians were displaced including 10,000 to Kabkabiya, 8,000 to Saraf Umra and 25,000 to El Sereif. Several thousand displaced mine workers were transported by Government authorities back to their places of origin in other states.

UNAMID transported state authorities, including the Wali of North Darfur and a delegation from the Darfur Regional Authority, to the area to intervene and initiate reconciliation talks between the tribes. It also provided special flights to airlift civilian casualties. Beni Hussein militias blocked attempts by UNAMID to gain access to the area where the fighting began.

On 13 and 14 January UNAMID and humanitarian agencies conducted a humanitarian needs assessment in areas of displacement. Thereafter, UNAMID transported aid and provided security escorts to humanitarian agencies for the delivery of more than 44 tons of urgently needed non-food items.

Following the intervention by Government authorities and UNAMID, tribal leaders declared a ceasefire on 17 January and committed to a reconciliation conference planned for April. However, sporadic clashes between the tribes have continued in the Jebel Amer area and, more recently, on 19 January, in and around Foro Baranga, in central Darfur. UNAMID will continue to conduct confidence-building patrols to affected areas and to engage with traditional leaders and Government authorities to stabilize the security situation.

With regard to the safety and security of UNAMID and humanitarian personnel working in Darfur, I am pleased to report that, on 2 January, with the support of the Government of the Sudan, the two UNAMID formed police unit personnel who were abducted in Kabkabiya, North Darfur, on 20 August 2012, were released unharmed, after 136 days in captivity. We continue to urge the Government of the Sudan to hold the kidnappers and the perpetrators of other attacks against UNAMID and humanitarian personnel working in Darfur accountable. I am equally relieved to report that the three UNAMID national staff members who were arrested on 24 and 25 December 2012 by national security officers in Nyala, South Darfur, were released on 22 January. All charges against them were dropped. Despite that positive development, we urge the Government of the Sudan to respect the immunities afforded United Nations personnel working in Darfur in order to enable them to implement the Mission's mandate in an impartial manner.

(*spoke in French*)

The security situation in some parts of Darfur, particularly in the west of Jebel Marra and in North Darfur, has worsened gradually since my last briefing to the Council, in October 2012 (see S/PV.6853). UNAMID has undertaken measures to bolster civilian protection in those areas, including by strengthening its early-warning and rapid-response capacities.

The goal of achieving a comprehensive and sustainable peace in Darfur nevertheless requires of the Government of the Sudan a holistic settlement of the issues of political and economic marginalization affecting not only Darfur but also the Sudan as a whole. Along the same lines, parties, including all armed movements and the Government of the Sudan, must put an end to hostilities and commit to addressing grievances through peaceful dialogue.

The full implementation of the provisions of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur includes the holding of consultations and an internal political dialogue in Darfur, which must provide an opportunity to deal with the causes of the conflict while contributing to an improvement of the security situation on the ground. In that respect, the full support of the international community remains necessary to keep the attention of the Sudanese Government, the Darfur Regional Authority and the signatory and non-signatory armed movements focused on the need to achieve a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

The President: I thank Mr. Mulet for his briefing.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Sudan.

Mr. Osman (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for this month, especially since you are from a friendly country that makes a much-appreciated contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. The best proof of that is that during your presidency the Council has held important events, the most recent of which was the open debate on a multidimensional approach to peacekeeping operations (see S/PV.6903). Pakistan is a country with extensive experience in peacekeeping, as it has been one of the biggest troop-contributing countries to United Nations peacekeeping operations for many decades. I would also like to express our appreciation to Mr. Mulet, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. We thank him for his briefing to the Council.

The report before the Council on the situation in Darfur (S/2013/22) clearly indicates that a state of security and stability prevails in Darfur's five provinces. We would like to highlight paragraph 2 of the report, where it states that the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur is moving ahead on various axes, following the Darfur Regional Authority's full assumption of its responsibilities. The Authority is being managed by the people of Darfur themselves, and has started to implement projects pertaining to resettlement of returnees, development, reconstruction and economic recovery, not to mention the fact that preparations for holding a stakeholder conference for internally displaced persons and refugees have almost been completed.

In the meantime, the Chairman of the Authority, Mr. Seise, is currently on a tour to some donor States, including the Republic of Korea and Japan. He will also visit other States that are permanent members of the Security Council in order to prepare for the donor conference on Darfur.

The report also states that measures have been completed to appoint members to the Darfur Regional Authority's Executive Council, which is made up of 67 members. In the formation of that Council, several seats were left vacant, in anticipation of the possibility that certain representatives of movements who are expected to sign the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur might do so.

We would like to note that Doha, the capital of Qatar, is currently hosting a meeting with representatives of some of those movements, which have left the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and, responding to the voice of reason, decided to join the political process to pave the way towards signing the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. We hope that those efforts will be successful soon.

It is worth noting that the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, especially in terms of justice and reconciliation, has gone ahead. In that connection, we would like to highlight paragraph 6 of the report of the Secretary-General before the Council, which notes that the office of the national special prosecutor for crimes committed in Darfur has commenced its work and opened investigations into 10 cases. Those cases pertain to crimes committed in Darfur over the past few years. That is a good start.

I would also like to note that, among the cases before the national special prosecutor are cases in which peacekeepers and humanitarian workers were attacked. One of the most prominent cases under consideration now is the October 2012 attack on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) caravan. Many suspects allegedly involved in that attack have been detained.

I would also like to note the joint efforts by the Government of the Sudan and the Voluntary Return and Resettlement Commission of the Darfur Regional Authority in resettling people, in the light of the increased number of voluntary returns from camps, now that security and stability have been established.

Allow me to correct some inaccurate information contained in the report before the Council, in particular with respect to the protection of civilians.

The report notes in many instances what it calls renewed clashes between Government forces and rebel movements that have not signed the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, when most of those incidents are actually strictly tribal clashes in which the Government only intervened to maintain order, enforce the State's authority and help with tribal reconciliation by coordinating with elders and tribal chiefs.

In that context, I would like to highlight the bloody confrontation mentioned by Mr. Mulet that took place in the area of Jebel Amer in North Darfur. That was no more than an armed confrontation between the two tribes of the sons of Amer and Beni Husscin over areas of traditional gold-mining activity. As the Council knows, Jebel Amer is an area where people extract gold using local, traditional methods. Yet the report before the Council states that the Sudanese Armed Forces bombed a gold mine, which is not true.

That incident confirms that the root causes of the conflict in Darfur continue to be the competition over resources. It started with competition over land, water and grazing areas, and now, after precious minerals such as gold were discovered, the tribes are competing over precious metals.

The report submitted by the Secretary-General also makes clear the extent of the cooperation that UNAMID is receiving from the central and provincial Sudanese authorities. The report notes, in paragraph 34, that, with a few exceptions, the Government of the Sudan approved all 3,938 flight requests submitted by UNAMID. That confirms that the Government is keen on facilitating the movement of the Mission, except in a very few instances in which the Mission might be in danger or where there might be military activity on the part of the rebels.

The same is true of the requests made for travel permits for UNAMID convoys, as the authorities involved do not object in principle to any movement by the mission. However, as I have mentioned, certain areas are very dangerous, because rebel movements target UNAMID convoys.

In that context, the Government of the Sudan and its Mission in New York reiterate that we will continue our cooperation with UNAMID in all areas relating to the performance of its duties. Just yesterday I had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, the new Joint Special Representative for UNAMID and head of UNAMID in Darfur. I discussed with him all aspects of the situation in Darfur, starting with the root causes of the conflict and the efforts and policies of the State aimed at arriving at a negotiated, permanent solution to the conflict. I assured him that we would cooperate with him to the extent possible and in a manner that would guarantee the safety, security and unity of the Sudan.

At the end of the meeting, I noted that in that context we hoped that all members of UNAMID would abide by the principle of neutrality, which is enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. I also noted that the Government of the Sudan, like other countries, would not allow anyone who is involved or has been proved to be involved in activities that threaten security in the country to enter into the Sudan, and that the relevant authorities had the right to deny them entry into the country.

In conclusion we reiterate our long-standing view that the Security Council must urgently and resolutely take all of the necessary measures against those who reject peace among the leaders of the armed rebel movements in Darfur and who continually seek to obstruct the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace. We hope to see additional measures taken and that stronger messages will be sent to those armed rebel groups that reject peace. We expect the Security Council to take action against them by imposing sanctions.

Also in that context, we deem it important for the Council to compel the State of South Sudan to disengage and dissociate itself immediately from the rebel movements in the Sudan, including the ones in Darfur, that reject the Doha Document. The rebel movements in Darfur continue to conduct military operations in the border areas and in South Darfur. They have been launching attacks from South Sudan, which continues to sponsor those rebel movements and to provide them with logistical and political support, in blatant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 2046 (2012), whose main demand is an immediate halt to the provision of support to the rebel movements by any country.

I wish, in concluding, to note that even as the Government of the Sudan is working hard to arrive at a peaceful solution to the conflict in Darfur and other areas, some are attempting to obstruct those efforts. In that connection, I would like to note the destructive role

recently played by Uganda when it openly hosted in Kampala, on 5 January, a meeting of a coalition of armed rebel groups opposing the Government of the Sudan. That meeting included the rebel movements in Darfur as well as the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North, as well as some other political factions. Uganda gave that coalition support and assistance. As I said earlier, we have provided the Council with the details of that meeting. We ask it to hold Uganda fully responsible for having placed obstacles in the path of the peace process in Darfur, and the same applies to South Sudan.

The President: I now give the floor to Mr. Mulet to make a further statement.

Mr. Mulet: At the beginning of my briefing today, I reported that, since 20 January, some negotiations had been under way in Doha between the Government and one faction of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) under the auspices of Ms. Aïchatou Mindaoudou Souleymane, Deputy Joint Special Representative of the Secretary-General and mediator. I am pleased to report that, just a few minutes ago, the negotiating parties in Doha — the Government of the Sudan and the JEM of Mohammed Bashir — signed a framework agreement that sets out the basis on which the parties will negotiate on the adoption of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. I thought that that information was pertinent for the members of the Council.

The President: I now give the floor to the representative of the Sudan to make a further statement.

Mr. Osman (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): I take the floor to thank Mr. Mulet for the statement he just made, which confirms to all members of the Council the progress that the peace process is making in the Sudan as many rebel movements join the march towards peace on a daily basis.

The President: There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.6911

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6911th meeting
Friday, 25 January 2013, 10 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Estreme
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Tian Lin
	France	Mr. Araud
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Kayinamura
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

Peace consolidation in West Africa

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa (S/2012/977)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-21731 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Peace consolidation in West Africa

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa (S/2012/977)

The President: In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Said Djinnit, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/2012/977, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa.

I now give the floor to Mr. Djinnit.

Mr. Djinnit: I have the honour to introduce the tenth report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), covering the period from 1 July to 31 December 2012 (S/2012/977).

Since my last briefing to the Security Council, on 11 July 2012 (see S/PV.6804), West Africa has continued to face significant challenges to governance, peace consolidation and conflict prevention, as illustrated by the ongoing crisis in the Sahel, especially in Mali, as well as in Guinea-Bissau, and the overall threat posed by transnational organized crime and terrorism.

In Mali, in conformity with resolutions 2056 (2012) and 2071 (2012), I have continued to work closely with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other stakeholders to support the implementation of the various pillars of the Strategic Concept adopted at the meeting of the Support and Follow-up Group on Mali, held in Bamako on 19 October 2012.

Since the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in West Africa was issued, I have undertaken a series of consultations in the subregion aimed at fast-tracking the implementation of resolution 2085 (2012), especially the political process as the preparations for the military deployment were ongoing. I travelled to Bamako on 20 and 21 December 2012 to encourage the Malian authorities to strengthen the much-needed national cohesion to move forward with the transitional tasks, in particular with regard to the adoption of the road map to end the transition, including through the holding of elections, as well as to prepare for negotiations with armed groups willing to cut off ties to terrorist groups and to recognize the unity and territorial integrity of Mali. Following my visit to Bamako, I supported the efforts of the ECOWAS mediation with a view to preparing for a subsequent round of negotiations, initially scheduled for 21 January, in Ouagadougou.

However, the decision of Ansar Dine to renounce the cessation of hostilities that was agreed on 4 December, under the auspices of the ECOWAS mediation, and the advances southward by extremist elements precipitated the acceleration of the military track. Those advances prompted the Malian authorities to seek the assistance of France in order to stop the progression of the extremist groups. The subsequent decision of France to launch a military intervention in Mali to pave the way for the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) was widely supported by the international community.

All those developments have marked a turning point that has shifted the focus to the military track. As the hostilities continue, I call on all parties and forces to ensure full compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights norms.

Since the beginning of the hostilities, I have visited Ouagadougou and Abuja, on 13 and 14 January, respectively, to engage with the ECOWAS mediator and the President of the ECOWAS Commission. I also visited Bamako, on 17 January, to meet with President Dioncounda Traoré and other Malian interlocutors. Moreover, I also travelled to Abidjan, on 18 and 19 January, to participate in the ECOWAS Mediation and Security Council, as well as the Extraordinary Session of the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government. The summit confirmed the readiness of the Heads of State of the subregion to deploy AFISMA, but also highlighted some of the key challenges ahead, including in terms of logistical support, as well as coordination and command and control, for which the support of the United Nations and partners was requested.

I wish to praise the commendable mobilization of the countries of West Africa in rapidly deploying troops

on the ground and in accelerating the operationalization of AFISMA. Following the recent ECOWAS summit, the Chairman of the ECOWAS Authority, President Alassane Ouattara, requested me to underscore to the United Nations in New York the importance that West African leaders attached to the immediate provision of logistical and financial support by the United Nations to facilitate the deployment of AFISMA. I hope that their request will be considered favourably and swiftly as the Security Council considers the letter submitted by the Secretary-General on 19 January.

I welcome the commitment that Council members have consistently expressed in their support for the military and political tracks to proceed hand in hand. As reiterated by the recent Extraordinary Session of ECOWAS, we must ensure that the political process is not neglected and that efforts to consolidate and strengthen the transition process continue. It is now essential that the Malian authorities finalize the road map to end the transition through an inclusive and consultative process before its adoption. I welcome the consultations led by Prime Minister Diango Cissoko to that effect. I encourage him to ensure that the consultations are as inclusive as possible so as to create a broad consensus on the way forward in fulfilling the objectives of the transition.

Likewise, it is important that the preparations for the holding of elections continue in earnest to ensure that the polls can be held as soon as feasible. In addition, it will also be necessary to eventually pursue a broad reconciliation process that strengthens the foundations for national cohesion in Mali. The recently deployed United Nations team in Bamako will be fully available to support that process, and I will personally continue to support those efforts.

Moreover, in line with resolution 2085 (2012) and further to the call made by the 19 January ECOWAS summit encouraging the ECOWAS mediators to persevere in their undertaking until the resolution of the institutional and security crises in Mali, in the coming weeks I will support mediation efforts that involve engaging with non-terrorist groups and other representatives of the northern population of Mali towards achieving a lasting solution to the issue in northern Mali.

I wish to stress that the situation in Mali exemplifies the fragility and vulnerability that prevail in the whole of the Sahel region, while at the same time the Malian crisis has far-reaching implications for the subregion. As developments unfold in Mali, the risks of infiltration and destabilization are real in some countries bordering Mali, as illustrated by the efforts of neighbouring countries to tighten security along their borders. The overall terrorism threat in the subregion has also been heightened by the situation in Mali. I encourage the efforts of Mali's neighbours and other West African countries to step up preventive security measures.

However, we must remain mindful of the limitations faced by the neighbouring countries of Mali and enhance the international community's support in the areas of border control and counter-terrorism, among other priorities. All of the above highlights the importance of the United Nations initiative on the Sahel, spearheaded by Special Envoy Romano Prodi and his team, whom my Office and the United Nations regional team back fully.

Beyond the crises in Mali and the Sahel, the region continues to be confronted with the threat posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea. That phenomenon has a significant potential to impact economic progress in both coastal and landlocked countries, as well as to disrupt international maritime trade routes that transit the area. Since my last briefing to the Council, UNOWA has facilitated, together with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the convening of two meetings of the Steering Committee on the implementation of resolution 2039 (2012), in Libreville and, more recently, in Abidjan.

I am pleased to report that it has been agreed to hold a ministerial conference of the States of the Gulf of Guinea in Benin, in March, to be followed by a summit of Heads of State in Yaoundé, hopefully in April, to launch the process of finalization of a strategic framework for the fight against piracy and maritime organized crime. In preparation for those meetings, the Steering Committee has endorsed a draft memorandum of understanding between the Economic Community of Central African States, ECOWAS and the Commission of the Gulf of Guinea on safety and security in the maritime space of West and Central Africa, as well as a draft political declaration, expected to be adopted by the summit of Heads of State.

The tensions along the borders between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire and with other neighbouring countries remain a source of concern. I welcome the cooperation extended by Côte d'Ivoire's neighbouring countries and encourage them to continue their efforts to foster lasting peace in that country and in the region

as a whole. Building on the inter-mission cooperation between the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire and the United Nations Mission in Liberia, UNOWA is promoting the development of a subregional strategy to address the threat of cross-border movements of armed groups and weapons, as well as trafficking, in line with resolutions 2000 (2011) and 2066 (2012). I am pleased to report that the President of the ECOWAS Commission has confirmed his agreement to our proposal for the holding of a meeting that brings together ECOWAS, the Mano River Union, UNOWA and other United Nations entities to better define the process towards the development of such a strategy. At the same time, UNOWA, the peace missions in West Africa and the rest of the United Nations system continue to assist the Governments of the Mano River Basin in preserving the hard-won achievements of the peace gains of recent years.

The Office is also engaged in efforts to strengthen security sector reform (SSR) in the subregion by supporting ECOWAS's development of a subregional SSR strategy and by providing direct assistance to the SSR process in Guinea. In addition to the anticipated United Nations engagement in Mali, UNOWA is exploring other entry points for the promotion of security sector reform in the subregion.

The situations in Guinea-Bissau and in Mali continue to illustrate the extent to which organized crime has developed its activities and extended its reach, thus threatening to seriously undermine governance and security in the subregion. At the same time, some positive steps to counter their impact have been taken during the past six months. In particular, the ECOWAS Commission, with the support of the United Nations and that of other bilateral partners, has begun to take encouraging steps towards the implementation of its Regional Plan of Action to address the growing problem of illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and drug abuse in West Africa.

In the light of those new dynamics, and building on our mobilization efforts described in the Secretary-General's report, together with our core partners in the West Africa Coast Initiative (WACI) — namely, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and INTERPOL — we are exploring the possibility of convening a donors conference to garner additional support for the ECOWAS Regional Plan of Action and for WACI. Furthermore, I am strongly encouraged by the increasing involvement of West African civil society organizations in confronting this threat. UNOWA is engaging different partners in the subregion to further raise awareness, including the Kofi Annan Foundation, which has taken initiatives in that respect.

With regard to electoral processes in the subregion, I wish to stress the need to remain vigilant to avoid elections-related violence. I also wish to commend the successful holding of general elections in Ghana and Sierra Leone, and to praise the supportive role played by ECOWAS in that regard. Their successful outcome, including the fact that challenges were addressed though the legally established channels, provides reason for hope. At the same time, concerns remain with regard to developments in other countries in West Africa where elections are to be held in 2013, including Mali, Guinea and Togo. It is essential that genuine dialogue among Governments, the opposition and civil society be pursued in a spirit of goodwill and cooperation to create conditions for the holding of peaceful and credible elections. On its part, UNOWA will continue its good-offices efforts to encourage dialogue whenever needed.

UNOWA strongly believes in partnerships in meeting its responsibilities. I am pleased to report that UNOWA's cooperation with its regional partners, in particular with ECOWAS and the Mano River Union, as well as with the African Union, remains very promising. That was illustrated by the review meeting I recently had with the President of the ECOWAS Commission, Mr. Kadré Désiré Ouédraogo, and his colleagues in which we considered the situation in Mali, obviously, as well as cross-cutting issues, including drug trafficking and organized crime, piracy and maritime organized crime, the situation in the Mano River Union and the need to establish a strategy for that region, counter-terrorism and governance in the security sector.

Finally, I wish to remind the Security Council of the very important progress that has been achieved in the demarcation of the boundary between Cameroon and Nigeria through the efforts of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, which have been facilitated by the United Nations from the beginning. To date, 1,845 kilometres have been assessed and agreed, out of an estimated total of more than 2,000 kilometres. I wish to praise the commitment of the parties to that process, while encouraging them to resolve the status of the outstanding areas in order to conclude the field assessment of the boundary. I also encourage the

Governments of Cameroon and Nigeria to increase efforts to enhance cross-border confidence-building measures that address the security and well-being of the populations affected by the demarcation process. The United Nations is supporting the formulation of confidence-building measures with the Governments of Cameroon and Nigeria, in order to give a human dimension to the political process of the demarcation.

Allow me to conclude my briefing by stressing that the situation in West Africa remains at a crossroads. On the one hand, the leaders of the region have made significant progress towards the promotion and consolidation of peace, and are making decisive efforts to address the pressing challenges to peace and security in the region. On the other hand, the situation in Mali and in the Sahel, combined with other cross-cutting threats in the region, including drug trafficking and piracy, has the potential to undermine security in West Africa, while the root causes of instability in the region are yet to be fully addressed. The continued attention and support of the international community, in particular the United Nations and the Security Council, to ECOWAS leaders and countries remains essential to achieve lasting peace, stability and development in the subregion.

The President: I thank Mr. Djinnit for his briefing.

I now invite the members of the Council to informal consultations to continue our discussion of the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6912

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6912th meeting
Tuesday, 29 January 2013, 10 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Araud
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. M'Beou
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation in Libya

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13-21995 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Libya

The President: In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Libya to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Tarek Mitri, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I now give the floor to Mr. Mitri.

Mr. Mitri: Since my last briefing, Prime Minister Ali Zeidan and his Cabinet have taken office in Tripoli. The Prime Minister appears to enjoy broad support from the General National Congress, political parties and the public. The new Government has expressed its determination to tackle the major internal problems facing the country. Equally, the Prime Minister has taken the initiative to enhance relations of cooperation and mutual respect with neighbours in the region, as well as with other international partners.

In recognition of the importance of the Prime Minister's office in exercising leadership in policy implementation and ensuring coordination among the ministries, the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) has been providing technical assistance in developing effective institutions and processes. Similar assistance has been provided to the General National Congress to support the establishment of its internal structures.

Since my most recent briefing (see S/PV.6857), the Libyan constitution-making process has gained increased political significance, with mounting public pressure on the General National Congress to move expeditiously towards forming the constitution-drafting body. The General National Congress has not yet determined whether the members of that body are to be appointed or elected. That this debate is intertwined with regional politics is evident. The General National Congress has formed a committee to organize public consultations around this important matter. UNSMIL is providing support to the work of the committee. Libyan civil society has also increased discussions on constitution-making procedures and on the constitution's content. UNSMIL continues to encourage inclusive dialogue on both sets of issues, hoping to enhance progress in the process leading to the making of the constitution.

On 14 January, women members of the General National Congress announced the formation of a caucus, one of whose key aims is to ensure the fair representation of women on the constitutional drafting committee. UNSMIL has been supporting their efforts in advocating for women's rights and political participation. In this context, I also recently met with representatives of the Amazigh, Tabu and Tuareg communities to discuss their demands that the Government and the constitutional process address issues affecting their communities, including questions of Libyan identity and citizenship, political participation and language rights.

While the security situation in Libya remains precarious, efforts to reform the security sector have begun to assure greater coherence. On 11 December, the Minister of the Interior announced his plans to develop and restructure the Ministry. His priorities include increasing police presence and visibility, moving gradually towards the integration of members of the Supreme Security Committee into the police, and establishing a vetting mechanism aimed at instilling public confidence in the police force. Since then, more than 20,000 revolutionary fighters — quite a large number — attached to the Supreme Security Committee have individually enlisted in the Ministry and the training process has been set in motion.

The plans of the Government, and those of the Minister of the Interior in particular, have been met with resistance from certain revolutionary brigades that are not ready to surrender their weapons and be absorbed into State institutions. UNSMIL continues to offer, in a more coordinated and efficient manner, its technical advice on the issues of demobilization and reintegration, training, national security policies, legal frameworks, organizational structure and budget.

On 9 December, the borders, petroleum and critical infrastructure guards entity was placed under the command of the Army's Chief of Staff to ensure improved command and control of military operations.

UNSMIL is supporting the Government in developing a comprehensive defence policy, through the process known as "Towards a Defence White Paper", facilitated in close consultation with concerned Ministers, leaders of various military and security institutions, regional military commanders, General National Congress committees, non-governmental organizations and even former revolutionary fighters. The draft of the full paper is expected in February.

UNSMIL and its partners in the international defence working group, continue to assist in the development of military education and training, personnel and pension reform, defence legislation and regulations, and media and communications capabilities. A number of experts have been embedded in the Ministry of Defence and the Office of the Army Chief of Staff.

On 5 and 6 December, the World Health Organization facilitated national consultations in partnership with the Warriors' Affairs Commission for Rehabilitation and Development, the Ministry of Health and Libyan universities to design a curriculum for a one-year course on the psychosocial rehabilitation of former combatants and their families, to be launched in March.

Various Libyan institutions, with the help of the United Nations and other international partners, continued to make significant progress in clearing unexploded ordnances and improving ammunition management. Risk education, including a Ministry of Education training of teachers programme, is supported by UNICEF. However, much remains to be done. For 2013, the United Nations will require $21 million of voluntary funds to efficiently continue its activities.

Security along Libya's borders remains a key concern given the current capacity limitations and the possible impact of recent developments in Mali. In early December, Prime Minister Zeidan visited Algeria, Chad, Niger and the Sudan to discuss border security and ways to improve bilateral relations. This visit resulted in agreements on border security cooperation. On 12 January, the Prime Minister met with the Prime Ministers of Algeria and Tunisia in Ghadames and agreed to joint measures to combat organized crime, terrorism and smuggling across borders.

Meanwhile, discontent among the population in the south has increased, with accusations of insufficient service delivery prompting a temporary walkout by some General National Congress members to draw attention to the issue. Libyan authorities at the highest level expressed, through visits and otherwise, their willingness to address these problems. Prior to that, my Deputy led a joint United Nations country team-UNSMIL mission to the south from 19 to 23 November. They met with local authorities and representatives of civil society to look into humanitarian and development needs. Some of their findings were shared with officials in Tripoli.

Despite some progress, the security situation remains problematic. On 3 January, President el-Magariaf survived an assassination attempt during a visit to Sabha. On 12 January, unknown gunmen fired upon the vehicle of the Italian consul in Benghazi. Targeted attacks on security officials continue in the east. The head of Benghazi's police directorate and a top official in the city's Criminal Investigation Department have been killed. Police stations in Benghazi and Derna have been attacked on many different occasions, as have police patrols.

The Ministry of the Interior, supported by the Benghazi local council, has begun to implement a participatory security policy involving citizens and tribal leaders, aimed at creating the stability in Benghazi that Libyans desire. Benghazi residents organized a demonstration on 28 December, in which they demanded an end to the attacks against security personnel, an investigation into the recent events, and, most important, the dissolution of all armed groups. In my meetings with the local council, non-governmental organizations, political parties and independent figures during my visit to Benghazi, all emphasized the need for more effective implementation of the Government's decisions to improve security in the east. They also expressed their deep feeling of marginalization and called for genuine decentralization and for the election rather than selection of a constitutional drafting body.

The security situation in the east of Libya poses a serious challenge to the Government and threatens to derail its attempts to secure stability. Assassinations and attacks have to be viewed primarily in the context of the resistance of some armed groups to the State's attempt to re-establish its authority. The opposition of armed radical groups to the military intervention in Mali may exacerbate the situation, given ideological and/or ethnic affiliations, as well as porous borders in Libya. Senior Libyan officials whom I met recently stressed their concern over the situation and pledged to provide better security to the diplomatic community and the citizens of Benghazi.

In my last briefing, I reported on the situation in Bani Walid, which has since stabilized. Our human rights team is continuing to follow up on alleged human rights violations committed during and in the aftermath of the conflict. A documented report has been completed and I will present it to the Libyan authorities upon my return to Tripoli. Events in Bani Walid and elsewhere highlighted the urgent need to promote reconciliation and transitional justice. In December, the United Nations, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and relevant Government entities, held two conferences on reconciliation and transitional justice. A new draft law on transitional justice, introduced by the Minister of Justice, who is a human rights advocate, provides for a more coherent truth-seeking mechanism, clearer provisions of criminal accountability, and expanded provisions on compensation.

Various efforts towards upholding the need for national reconciliation and the imperative of justice alike are likely to be affected by tensions that could be created or exacerbated by the divisive character of certain thorny issues. Following the exclusion from public positions of persons associated with the previous, Al-Qadhafi regime, on the basis of reviews by the Integrity and Patriotism Commission, there is a strong drive among certain political forces to take this even further. On 26 December and following the proposal of some of its members, the General National Congress discussed the adoption of a law on "political isolation" and formed a committee to make a proposal. UNSMIL encourages consultations on this proposal, looking carefully into possible undesirable effects on reconciliation, social cohesion and political pluralism. We are firm in our conviction that the distinction between personal misconduct and affiliation need not be overshadowed by the desire to be receptive to a popular demand. Any law should also provide sufficient due process guarantees for those whose rights are affected.

The continued detention without due process and mistreatment of several thousand people arising from the conflict remain a source of deep concern. While there has been some progress in the screening and processing of conflict-related detainees, this has remained limited in scope. UNSMIL continues to urge the Libyan authorities to accelerate the screening of such detainees, the release of those against whom there is insufficient evidence, and the transfer of detainees to State-controlled facilities. Additionally, UNSMIL continues to advise the Libyan authorities on prison reform. UNSMIL has also commenced weekly meetings with the General National Congress human rights committee and held additional training for civil society organizations.

UNSMIL continues to advise the Office of the Prosecutor-General on the implementation of an overall prosecutorial strategy, with a focus on cases of those with a high level of responsibility or those responsible for serious crimes. In that regard, on 1 January the Office of the Prosecutor-General announced that it had made significant progress in its investigations against Saif Al-Islam Al-Qadhafi and Abdullah Al-Senussi. Saif Al-Islam Al-Qadhafi appeared before the criminal court in Zintan on 17 January on charges of undermining State security and attempting to escape from prison. The hearing did not address, for the time being, any crimes related to the conflict. The trial of Mahmoud Al-Baghdadi, former Secretary of the General People's Committee — a sort of Prime Minister — under Al-Qadhafi, commenced on 12 November. The court adjourned until 11 February to allow the defence additional time to summon witnesses.

On 17 December, the United Kingdom Government hosted an international meeting with the participation of Libyan officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Interior, Justice and Intelligence to discuss international assistance to Libya in its reform of the security sector and institution-building in the justice sector. The meeting — which was attended by officials of Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Qatar, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America and Turkey, as well as the European Union and the United Nations — endorsed those priorities, emphasized the importance of coordination, and identified specific international assistance needed to realize progress. A ministerial conference will be held in Paris in February. UNSMIL will continue to assist the Libyan authorities in preparing for the conference and will be ready to assume its responsibilities in ensuring proper coordination in following up on the decisions of the Paris conference.

While the determination of the authorities and their many initiatives may augur a greater capability of moving forward in institution-building, it is worth underscoring that there are still many difficult decisions to take in the areas of constitution-making, transitional justice and reconciliation, not to mention security sector reform. In going forward, broad-based support for such decisions is necessary.

Equally necessary is seeking consensus on national priorities in this critical phase of democratic State-building. For that purpose, the Libyan authorities, political forces, community and tribal leaders, revolutionaries and civil society organizations should engage in a process of national dialogue. UNSMIL is committed to assisting in that endeavour.

The President: I thank Mr. Mitri for his briefing.

I call on the representative of Libya.

Mr. Dabbashi (Libya) (*spoke in Arabic*): I did not request the floor but since I have been given it, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month. I am sure that your wisdom will give rise to successful results. I would also like to thank Mr. Mitri, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya, for his comprehensive briefing. I think that the briefing has clarified the situation in Libya in all its aspects.

We still depend on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to assist the Government during this difficult transition period from the conflict towards State institution-building. As the Council will understand, it is a difficult period, in which we have had to face a great number of problems. We feel that it is extremely important for UNMSIL to remain in Libya at this critical time because we need its advice in many areas, in particular security sector reform, preparations for drafting the constitution and elections. Those are complex issues for us because we lack experience in such areas. That has been the case for the past five or six decades.

I would like to warmly commend Mr. Mitri on his efforts and his capacity to build confidence. Like his predecessor, Ian Martin, he has established great trust between the Libyan authorities and the United Nations mission. I note that he is working in a cordial environment of close cooperation. I am sure that that will certainly help the Libyan authorities and will make a difference. We hope that the Security Council will continue to provide us with such assistance.

The President: There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6913

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6913th meeting
Wednesday, 30 January 2013, 10 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Masood Khan	(Pakistan)
Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Ms. Guo Xiaomei
	France	Mr. Araud
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mrs. DiCarlo

Agenda

The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-22141 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I welcome the presence of the Deputy Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Jan Eliasson, and I give him the floor.

The Deputy Secretary-General: I thank the Security Council for its consideration of the effectiveness of United Nations support to the promotion of the rule of law in conflict and post-conflict situations.

In January last year, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on this subject. Since that request, we have been working hard to analyse and improve our institutional arrangements in order to maximize the impact of our work on the ground. Today, I will provide an interim briefing on our efforts. We will report fully to the Council in June, once we have better assessed the results of our efforts.

The General Assembly's historic — and I intentionally use the word "historic" — High-level Meeting on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels in September 2012 recognized the Security Council's positive contributions in this field. Eighteen of 23 Security Council missions include rule of law activities in their mandates. The Meeting's Declaration (General Assembly resolution 67/1) also emphasized that the rule of law provides keys to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Indeed, delivering justice and security through the rule of law mitigates conflict and helps reduce the risk of relapse into further conflict. The Declaration also requested the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with Member States to improve the effectiveness of our rule of law efforts.

In his 2011 report to the Council (S/2011/634), the Secretary-General acknowledged the need for stronger policy coherence to achieve real changes and results on the ground. At that time, roles and responsibilities were not clearly delineated, and there was no single lead guiding the United Nations system in this work. After internal consultations, the Secretary-General made a decision in September to realign our institutional response to the challenges we face in supporting the rule of law in conflict and post-conflict States.

At the field level, the Secretary-General enhanced United Nations field leadership, making leaders responsible and accountable for guiding United Nations rule of law strategies, addressing local challenges, and coordinating United Nations country support on the rule of law. At the same time, United Nations agencies in the field continue to be responsible for carrying out programmes in their respective areas of expertise.

At Headquarters, the Secretary-General designated the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the joint global focal point for the police, justice and corrections areas in post-conflict and other crisis situations in order to support field leadership in carrying out its responsibilities. The aim is to link all relevant United Nations entities and coordinate our support to the field.

At the strategic level, the Secretary-General strengthened the role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, which I have the honour to chair. The Group aims to ensure that the United Nations can foresee and address emerging opportunities and mobilize our partners in response. We plan later this year to assess the impact of these institutional arrangements. I have confidence that they are appropriate and useful.

At the same time, we have to acknowledge that evaluating the impact of our work is not easy. This is especially true in complex environments where it can take a long time to see real change and the effects of our actions. For instance, justice and security sector reform may not be linear; in some cases, progress can be very uneven. Rule of law work also demands a holistic approach that links justice, security and development and that aims to reach vulnerable groups in society. All these processes are difficult to measure. While there has been significant progress in measuring impact in many sectors, rule of law measures continue to lack the benefit of systematically collected and analysed information with which to measure the impact.

Even where we can measure tangible progress, it is difficult to attribute it to a particular entity's assistance. We need baseline data to understand the context, define the objectives and measure progress. All rule

of law initiatives should, in my view, be subjected to such analysis. We are working hard to ensure that this happens. In Malawi, for example, information from the UNDP-supported justice baseline study was used to shape the Government's democratic governance reform strategy. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNDP-led public surveys have played a role in the development of a national transitional justice strategy.

The improved availability and quality of national rule of law data would assist us in evaluating the impact of our work. Such data support national policymaking and enable an informed public to hold Governments accountable. That is very important, in my view. Data gathering should, however, clearly not be seen as an exercise in ranking countries. It is, rather, a tool for Governments to set their own priorities and, where needed, galvanize international support. National ownership is an aspect of the work of the rule of law.

I encourage Governments to make pledges to support these data collection efforts in conflict and post-conflict States. Such pledges would build on those made at the General Assembly High-level Meeting of 24 September, which generated more than 400 pledges to strengthen the rule of law. This is a very encouraging sign of the interest taken in this new and growing momentum on the rule of law. Better data will help us tobetter plan and prioritize so that we can optimize resources, carry out more accurate assessments and mitigate risks.

The United Nations has developed a number of tools to help States advance the rule of law. Let me, again, offer some concrete examples. DPKO and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights have developed the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project, which allows Governments to gather information on law enforcement and justice and prison systems, and measure their transformation over time. This tool is now being used by the Governments of Haiti, Liberia and South Sudan. Next year, UNDP will also publish a user's guide to measuring rule of law, justice and security programmes. As we continue to enhance our ability to measure the impact of the United Nations work, there is increasing evidence that our efforts are indeed delivering results.

Here in the Security Council, I am gratified to note that in Côte d'Ivoire, the United Nations peacekeeping operation has supported the Ministry of Justice in reopening 17 courts and 22 prisons, which is a very concrete and substantial result. In Haiti, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti has supported the start-up of 18 legal aid offices. In Serbia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees worked with the Government and local non-governmental organizations to help prevent marginalized individuals from becoming stateless, providing more than 20,000 Roma with official documents. More than 250 persons have been indicted by the ad hoc international criminal tribunals for war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide, and more than 120 have been convicted to date. These initiatives have shown results in helping to deliver justice while setting societies on course for lasting stability.

In closing, let me reaffirm that there can be no peace without development, no development without peace, and neither without full respect for human rights and the rule of law. The focus of the Security Council on the rule of law in conflict and post-conflict situations underlines and strengthens this important relationship. Together with the Secretary-General, I deeply appreciate the Council's in-depth consideration of the rule of law, and look forward to its continued engagement.

The President: I thank the Deputy Secretary-General for his statement.

I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6914

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 January 2013

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 6914th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 31 January 2013, at 10 a.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"At its 6914th meeting, held in private on 31 January 2013, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)'.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Albania, Brazil, Chile, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia and Turkey to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

"In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to the representative of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

"The members of the Council had an exchange of views."

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